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## **Senate recites Michigan flag pledge for the first time**

**LANSING** – Members of the Michigan State Senate recited the Michigan State Flag Pledge for the first time on Thursday morning after passing Senate Resolution 202, announced Sen. Wayne Kuipers, R-Holland.

“Saying the state pledge this morning reminded me what a great state Michigan is,” Kuipers said. “Taking a few minutes to show pride in our state is a great way to start the day.”

Kuipers introduced the resolution changing the Senate rules to have members say the Michigan pledge along with the U.S. pledge late last year. Members of the Senate will recite the state pledge on the first and last day of session, and at the annual State of the State Address.

Pupils in Sally Doeblen’s fourth-grade class at Borculo Christian School asked Kuipers to push for the change. He met with the class to talk to them about how government works and say the pledge with them. The pupils start each day saying the pledges of allegiance to the U.S. and Michigan flags.

Michigan officially adopted the state pledge with Public Act 165 of 1972. The act records that the pledge was written by Harold G. Coburn but gives no additional information about it.

A previous class of Doeblen’s took part in the legislative process in 1997. The Zeeland-area class successfully pushed to make the white-tail deer the official state game mammal.

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**Editor’s Note:** Sen. Kuiper’s comments regarding the Michigan Pledge are available on the web at [www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/audiowire).